

Eloquent peasant

Parkinson (R)

Created on 2009-08-17 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-08-18.

Hieroglyphic following Parkinson (1991) for version R from line 1.1 to the point in line 8.5 where version B1, starting at line 33, can be considered to be the 'main' version. After that, only occasional snippets are included where version R differs significantly from the other versions.

Bibliography

- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

Parkinson (B1)

Created on 2009-08-17 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-08-30.

Hieroglyphic following Parkinson (1991) for version B1 from line 33 to the end of line 357.

Bibliography

- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

Parkinson (B2)

Created on 2009-08-17 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-08-30.

Hieroglyphic following Parkinson (1991) for version B2 from line 91 to the end of line 142.

Bibliography

- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

Nederhof (R) - English

Created on 2006-11-04 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2015-08-06.

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Version R is given where it is the main version, or where it differs substantially from the other versions.

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

Bibliography

- R. Hannig. *Grosses Handwörterbuch Ägyptisch-Deutsch: die Sprache der Pharaonen (2800-950 v.Chr.)*. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1995.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

Nederhof (B1) - English

Created on 2006-11-04 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2015-08-06.

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Version B1 is given where it is the main version, or where it differs substantially from the other versions.

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

For published translations, see Lichtheim (1975), pp. 169-184; Parkinson (1997), pp. 54-88; Simpson (1972), pp. 31-49. Further, Goedicke (1998) covers the second petition (the text from B1 119 to B1 170); Zonhoven (1992), pp. 271-272, covers the text up to B1 119. Also considered

Bibliography

- J.P. Allen. *Middle Egyptian: An Introduction to the Language and Culture of Hieroglyphs*. Cambridge University Press, 2000.
- R.O. Faulkner. *A Concise Dictionary of Middle Egyptian*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1962.
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- H. Goedicke. Comments Concerning the "Story of the Eloquent Peasant". *Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde*, 125:109-125, 1998.
- E. Graefe. *Mittelägyptische Grammatik für Anfänger*. Harrassowitz Verlag, Wiesbaden, 1994.
- R. Hannig. *Grosses Handwörterbuch Ägyptisch-Deutsch: die Sprache der Pharaonen (2800-950 v.Chr.)*. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1995.
- A. Loprieno. *Ancient Egyptian: a linguistic introduction*. Cambridge University Press, 1995.
- M. Lichtheim. *Ancient Egyptian Literature -- Volume I: The Old and Middle Kingdoms*. University of California Press, 1975.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of Sinuhe and Other Ancient Egyptian Poems 1940-1640 BC*. Oxford University Press, 1997.
- W.K. Simpson (editor). *The Literature of Ancient Egypt: An Anthology of Stories, Instructions, and Poetry*. Yale University Press, 1972.
- L.M.J. Zonhoven. *Middel-Egyptische Grammatica: Een Praktische Inleiding in de Egyptische Taal en het Hiërogliefenschrift*. Leiden, 1992.

Nederhof (B2) - English

Created on 2006-11-04 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-06-15.

Transliteration and translation for The Eloquent Peasant, following the transcription of Parkinson (1991). Version B2 is given where it is the main version, or where it differs substantially from the other versions.

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995).

Bibliography

- R. Hannig. *Grosses Handwörterbuch Ägyptisch-Deutsch: die Sprache der Pharaonen (2800-950 v.Chr.)*. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, 1995.
- R.B. Parkinson. *The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant*. Griffith Institute, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, 1991.

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Pa R | ^{2.2} | ^{2.3} | ^{2.4} | ^{2.5} |
| Ne R | rdmt | ḥsmn | ḥmʔt | ḥtw [...] |
| Ne R | purple nutsedge ¹ , | natron, | salt, | sticks from [...], |

¹ Uncertain.

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Pa R | ^{2.6} | ^{2.7} |
| Ne R | ḥwnwt nt Tʔ-jḥw | ḥnwt nt bʔw |
| Ne R | pieces of wood from Farafra, | hides of panthers, |

| | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Pa R | ^{3.1} | ^{3.2} |
| Ne R | ḥʔwt nt wnšw | nšʔw |
| Ne R | skins of golden jackals, | pondweed, |

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pa R | ^{3.3} | ^{3.4} | ^{3.5} | ^{3.6} |
| Ne R | ḥnw | tnm | ḥpr-wr | sʔhwt |
| Ne R | ḥnw-stone, | tnm-plants, | wild carrot ¹ , | serpentine ² , |

¹ Uncertain.² Uncertain.

| | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Pa R | ^{3.7} | ^{4.1} | ^{4.2} | ^{4.3} |
| Ne R | sʔkswt | mjswt | snt | [...] |
| Ne R | [???], | mjswt-plants, | ochre ¹ , | [...], |

¹ Uncertain.

| | | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Pa R | ^{4.4} | ^{4.5} | ^{4.6} | ^{4.7} |
| Ne R | ^{4.4} jbs ³ | ^{4.5} jnbj | ^{4.6} mnw | ^{4.7} n ^c rw |
| Ne R | ^{4.4} wild mint ¹ , | ^{4.5} hedge plants, | ^{4.6} pigeons ² , | ^{4.7} n ^c rw-birds, |

¹ Uncertain.² Uncertain.

| | | | | |
|-------------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Pa R | ^{5.1} | ^{5.2} | ^{5.3} | ^{5.4} |
| Ne R | ^{5.1} wgs | ^{5.2} wbn | ^{5.3} tbsw | ^{5.4} gngnt |
| Ne R | ^{5.1} gutted fish and plucked fowl, | ^{5.2} wbn-plants, | ^{5.3} tbsw-shrubs, | ^{5.4} gngnt-beans, |

| | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| Pa R | ^{5.5} | ^{5.6} |
| Ne R | ^{5.5} šnj-t ³ | ^{5.6} jnst |
| Ne R | ^{5.5} fenugreek ¹ , | ^{5.6} and anise ² ; |

¹ Following Faulkner (1962); not confirmed by Hannig (1995).² Uncertain.

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Pa R | ^{6.1} |
| Ne R | ^{6.1} mh(.w) m jnw nb nfr n Sht-ḥm ³ t |
| Ne R | ^{6.1} abound with all good products of the Wadi Natrun. |

| | | |
|-------------|--|------------------------|
| Pa R | ^{6.2} | ^{6.3} |
| Ne R | ^{6.2} šmt pw jr.n shtj pn m ḥntyt | ^{6.3} r |
| Ne R | ^{6.2} This peasant then went south | ^{6.3} to |

Ne R Herakleopolis, and he arrived in the district of Per-Ife^{6.4}¹, to the north of Mednit.

Pa R

Ne R He came across a man | standing on the embankment.

Pa R 6.6

Ne R His name was Nemtinakht¹ and he was the son of a man ^{0.6}called Isry².

² Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

Pa R 6.7

Ne R These were liegemen of the high steward **Rensi¹**, son of Meru².

² Transcription following Parkinson (1997).

[illegible]

Ne R And this Nemtinakht said, when he saw 7.1 | the donkeys of this peasant,

Pa R 7.2

Ne R ʕbyw jb=f | ḥꜣ n=j šsp nb 7.2

Ne R which were desirable to his heart: | 'Would that I had some divine image 7.2

Pa R 7.3

Ne R ʕwꜣ=j ḥnw n | šhtj pn jm=f 7.3

Ne R with which I could rob the goods of this peasant!

Pa R 7.4

Ne R jstṛ rf pr Nmtj-nḥt pn ḥr smꜣ-tꜣ | n rꜣ-wꜣt 7.4

Ne R Now, the house of this Nemtinakht was at a waterside path

Pa R

Ne R ḥns pw n wshḥ js pw

Ne R that was narrow, it was not broad:

Pa R 7.5

Ne R | qnn=f r shw n dꜣjw 7.5

Ne R | it measured the width of a loincloth. 7.5

Pa R 7.6

Ne R jw wꜣt=f wꜣt | ḥr mw kt ḥr jt 7.6

Ne R Its one side | was under water, the other under barley. 7.6

Pa R


Ne R dd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn n šmsw=f

Ne R This Nemtinakht then said to a servant of his:

33
Pa B1 


33
Ne B1 | n ḥnd=k ḥr ḥbsw=j ḏd.jn štj 34
| pn

33
Ne B1 | you will not step on my clothes!' And this peasant said:

Pa B1 

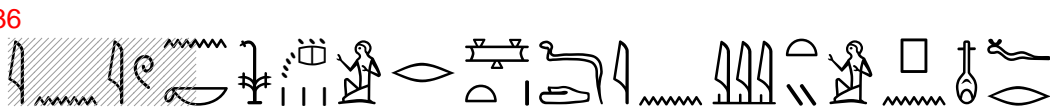
Ne B1 jry=j ḥst=k nfr mṯn=j

Ne B1 'I shall do what you wish; my way is good.'

35
Pa B1 

35
Ne B1 | prt pw jr.n=f r ḥrw ḏd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn

35
Ne B1 | And he went up higher. Then this Nemtinakht said:

36
Pa B1 

36
Ne B1 | jn-jw n=k šm^c=j r wṯt ḏd.jn štj pn

36
Ne B1 | 'Is my Upper-Egyptian barley to be a path for you?' And this peasant said:

37
Pa B1 

37
Ne B1 nfr | mṯnw=j

Ne B1 'My ways are good;

38
Pa B1 

38
Ne B1 jḥmt qṣ.tj mṯnw ḥr šm^c

Ne B1 the bank is steep, and the ways are under barley

39
Pa B1 

39
Ne B1 ḥn=k rf wṯt{t}|=n m ḥbsw=k

Ne B1 for you block our path with your clothes!

Pa B1 

40

Ne B1 jn nn rf dj=k sw³=n

40

| hr w³t

Ne B1 Will you then not allow us to pass

40

| on the path?'

Pa B1 

9.4

Ne R ph.n=f rf dd

| mdt [...]

Ne R As he had finished saying | [...] words,

9.4

Ne B1 ḥᶜ.n mḥ.n wᶜ m n³ n ᶜ

Ne B1 Then one of the donkeys filled

Pa B1 


41

Ne B1 | r³=f m b³t nt šmᶜ dd.jn Nmtj-nḥt pn

41

Ne B1 | its mouth with a wisp of barley. And this Nemtinakht said:

41

Pa B1 

42

43

Ne R mk ḥm ᶜ=k

9.6

| hr wnm jt=j

Ne R 'But look, your donkey

9.6

| is eating my barley!

Ne B1 | mk wj r nḥm ᶜ=k šḥtj

42

hr

43

| wnm=f šmᶜ=j

Ne B1 | 'Look, I shall take away your donkey, peasant, because

42

43

| it ate my barley.

Pa B1 

44

Ne B1 mk sw r hbt hr qn=f

44

| dd.jn šḥtj pn

Ne B1 It will tread (grain) for its offence.'

44

| This peasant then said:

Pa B1  

Ne B1 nfr mtnw=j w^ct

45
| ḥd.tw=s¹

Ne B1 'My ways are good! A single thing


45
| has been destroyed;

¹ What Parkinson (1991;1997) reads as 10 is here taken as =s.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jnn=j ^cj ḥr šn^c 10

Ne B1 I will buy my donkey back for 10 times the value

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jt=k sw ḥr mḥw n r³=f m b³t nt šm^c

Ne B1 if you take it away | for filling its mouth with a wisp of barley.

Pa B1  



Ne B1 jw=j grt | rh.kw nb n sp³t tn

Ne B1 Now, I | know the lord of this district;

Pa B1  

Ne B1 nj sj jmj-r³ pr wr Mrw s³ | Rnsj

Ne B1 it belongs to the high steward Rensi, son of Meru.

Pa B1  

Ne B1 ntf grt ḥsf ^cw³ nb m t³ pn r-|dr=f

Ne B1 He is the one who restrains every thief in this entire land.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn ^cw³.tw=j rf m sp³t=f

Ne B1 Shall I now be robbed in his district?'

[illegible]

Ne B1 dd.jn Nmtj-nht

Ne B1 Then this Nemtinakht

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jn p³ pw hn n mdt ddw rmt

Ne B1 'Is this not the proverb that people say:

51
Pa B1

Ne B1 | dm.tw rn n hwrw

Ne B1 | "One mentions the name of a commoner only on account of his lord."?


52

Pa B1



Ne B1 jnk | pw mdw n=k

Ne B1 I ⁵² I am the one who is speaking to you,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jmj-r³ pr wr pw sh³y=k

Ne B1 and it is the high steward whom you are referring to.'

53
Pa B1



Ne B1 | $\text{c}_{\text{h}}^{\text{c}} \cdot \text{n} \text{ } \text{b} \cdot \text{n} = \text{f} \text{ } \text{n} = \text{f} \text{ } \text{j}^{\text{zyt}} \text{ } \text{nt} \text{ } \text{jsr} \text{ } \text{w}^{\text{d}}$

Ne B1 | Then, he took a rod of fresh tamarisk

54
Pa B1


Ne B1 | r=f \dot{c}_h .n $c_3g=f$ $c_t=f$ nb jm=s

Ne B1 ⁵⁴ I to him, and he thrashed all his limbs with it,

Pa B1  55

Ne B1 nhm ʕw=f | s^cq r sp³t=f 55

Ne B1 took his donkeys away | and drove them to his district. 55

Pa B1  56


Ne B1 wn.jn shtj pn hr | rmyt ʕw wrt 56

Ne B1 Then this peasant proceeded to | wail very loudly 56

Pa B1  57


Ne B1 n-mr-n jr³ryt r=f

Ne B1 on account of the wickedness of what was done to him.

Pa B1  57

Ne B1 | dd.jn Nmtj-nht pn m q³ hrw=k shtj 57

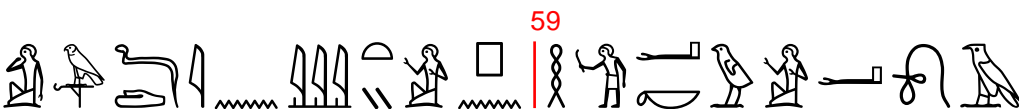
Ne B1 | But this Nemtinakht then said: 'Do not raise your voice, peasant, 57

¹ The following  in Parkinson (1991) is an erratum, confirmed by p.c. with the author on Sep 4 2000.

Pa B1  58

Ne B1 | mk tw r dmj n nb sgr 58

Ne B1 | or you will go to the abode of the Lord of Silence.' 58

Pa B1  59

Ne B1 dd.jn shtj pn | hw=k wj ʕw³=k hn^w=j 59

Ne B1 Then this peasant said: | 'You beat me, you rob my goods, 59

Pa B1
Ne B1 nb sgr dj=k rk n=j

Ne B1 Lord of Silence, may you give me back | my things, so that I need not scream

Pa B1



62


Ne R | nrw=k



12.3

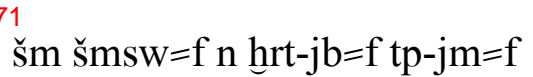
Ne R | to Your Fearsomeness.'

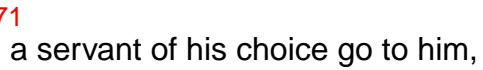
| | | | | |
|-------|------------------|--|----|---|
| | | | 62 | |
| Ne B1 | nr=k | | | jr.jn shtj pn ʕhʕw {10} r hrw 10 |
| | | | 62 | |
| Ne B1 | to startle you.' | | | Then this peasant spent a period of 10 days |

| | | | |
|--------------|---|-----------|--|
| Pa B1 |  | 63 |  |
| Ne B1 | ḥr spr n | 63 | Nmtj-nḥt pn n rdj=f m ^{3c} =f r=s |
| Ne B1 | pleading with | 63 | this Nemtinakht, but he did not pay attention to it. |


Pa B1  64
 12.5
 Ne R | šmt pw jr.n šhtj pn m hntyt
 12.5
 Ne R | This peasant then went south
 64
 Ne B1 šmt pw | jr.n šhtj pn r Nnj-nsw r spr
 Ne B1 This peasant then went to Herakleopolis in order to plead

Pa B1  

Ne B1 rdj.jn jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj 

Ne B1 And the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, had  a servant of his choice go to him,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 h3b 

Ne B1 and this peasant had him report back

Pa B1  

Ne B1 hr mdt tn mj 

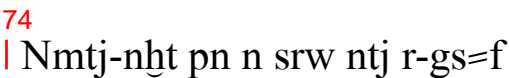
Ne B1 about this entire matter.


Pa B1  

Ne B1 wn.jn jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj hr srht

Ne B1 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, accused

Pa B1  



Ne B1 

Ne B1  this Nemtinakht to the officials who were with him.

Pa B1 

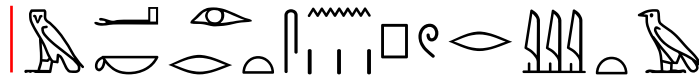
Ne B1 dd.jn=sn

Ne B1 But then they said to him:

Pa B1  

Ne B1 smwn shtj=f pw jw n ky r-gs=f

Ne B1 'Perhaps it is a peasant of his who went to someone else beside him.

⁷⁶
Pa B1 

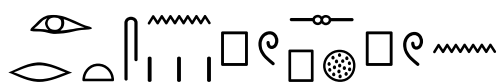
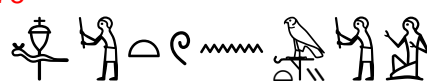
⁷⁶
Ne B1 | mk jr̀rt=sn pw r sḥtjw=sn

⁷⁶
Ne B1 | Look, that is what they do to peasants of theirs

⁷⁷
Pa B1  



⁷⁷
Ne B1 jww n | kt-ḥt r-gs=sn mk jr̀rt=sn pw

⁷⁷
Ne B1 who have gone to | others beside them. That is what they do.

⁷⁸
Pa B1  

⁷⁸
Ne B1 sp pw n | ḥsf.tw n Nmtj-nḥt pn

⁷⁸
Ne B1 Is this a cause for | punishing this Nemtinakht,

⁷⁹
Pa B1  

⁷⁹
Ne B1 ḥr nh n ḥsmn | ḥn^c nh n ḥm³t

⁷⁹
Ne B1 on account of a little natron | and a little salt?

⁸⁰
Pa B1  



⁸⁰
Ne B1 wd.tw n=f db³ | st db³=f st

⁸⁰
Ne B1 If he is ordered to replace | it, then he will replace

⁸¹
Pa B1  



⁸¹
Ne B1 gr pw jr.n | jmj-r³ pr wr Mrw s³ Rnsj

Ne B1 it.' But the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, remained silent.

Pa B1  

Ne B1 jr h³=k r š n | m³c^t sqd=k jm=f m m³c^w

Ne B1 if you go down to the Lake of | Truth, you will sail on it with a fair wind,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 | nn kf ndbyt ht³=k

Ne B1 | the bunt will not strip away your sail,

Pa B1  


Ne B1 nn | jh^lm dpwt=k nn jwt jyt m ht=k

Ne B1 your ship will not lag, | no disaster will befall your rudder stock,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 nn | sw³ srgw=k nn shm=k h³cc=k hr t³

Ne B1 your yards will not break, | you will not founder when you land,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 | nn jt tw nwt

Ne B1 | no wave will carry you off,

Pa B1  




Ne B1 nn dp=k dwt | nt jtrw

Ne B1 you will not taste the evil | of the river,

[illegible]

Ne B1 nn m³=k h_r s_nd

$$j\omega \quad n=k$$

92
|   
92
| rmw šn^cyw

Ne B1 you will not see the face of fear, but shy fish will come to you

Pa B1 93

Ne B1 $p_{\dot{h}}=k \ m^3pd$

93
| ddʒ hɾ ntt ntk jt n nmh
93

Ne B1 and you will catch fatted fowl.

For you are a father to the orphan,

Pa B1  94

Ne B1

94 | h3j n h3rt

sn n wd^ct

Ne B1

94 | a husband to the widow, a brother to the divorced

Pa B1 95

Ne B1 šndyt

95
| nt jw^tw mwt=f

Ne B1 and an apron

95
I to the motherless.

Pa B1 96

Ne B1 jm jry=j rn=k m








96
| t̥ p n r h p n b n f r

Ne B1 Let me make your name in

96
I this land according to every good

Pa B1 97

Ne B1 sšmw šw

97
|      |  
97
| m ^cwn-jb wr šw m ndyt

Ne B1 rule: leader free

97
I of greed, great one free of arrogance,

Pa B1

102

Ne R

16.8
| m 3hw

Ne R

16.8 I in distress!

Ne B1 jp

102 | wj mk wj m nhw

Ne B1 Examine

102
I me, I am at a loss!"

Pa B1

103

Ne B1 jst rf


103
| dd.n shtj pn mdt tn

Ne B1 Now,

103
| this peasant said these words

Pa B1

Ne B1 m rk hm n nsw-bjtj

104
| 
104
| Nb-kʷ-R^C

Ne B1 in the time of the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt | Nebkaure,

Pa B1

105

Ne B1 m³c-hrw šmt pw jr.n jmj-r³ pr wr

105 | Mrw s3 Rnsj

Ne B1 justified. The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, then went

Pa B1

Ne B1 tp-m hm=f dd=f

Ne B1 before His Majesty and said:

Pa B1

106

Ne B1 nb=j jw

106
| gm.n=j w^c m nn n shtj nfr mdw n

Ne B1 'My lord,

106 I have found one of these peasants who is truly eloquent.

18.1

18.1

1

$$\text{sdm}=\text{n st}$$

so that we may hear it.

112

18.2

18.2

112

112

113

113

Peasants come here because his h

114

18.4

18.4

114

114

11

Wp

You

Ne B1 $\underline{d}d=f\ jmj-r^3\ pr\ wr\ nb=j\ wr\ n\ wrw$

Ne B1 and said: 'High steward, my lord, greatest of the great, **I** richest of the rich,

Pa B1

Ne B1 ntj wn wr n wrw=f

Ne B1 whose great ones have one greater, whose rich ones have one richer,

Pa B1

Ne B1 hmw n pt

Ne B1 rudder of heaven,

Pa B1

Ne B1 h̃y f̃ wdnw

Ne B1 plumb-line that carries the weight! Rudder, do not deviate!

Pa B1

Ne B1 | sʷ m gsʷ hʷy m jr nwdw

Ne B1 | Beam, do not tilt! Plumb-line, do not swing awry!

Pa B1

Ne B1 nb wr

Ne B1 A great lord

Pa B1

Ne B1 hr h^cd³ hr w^c hrt=k m pr=k

Ne B1 and robs only that. Your possessions are in your house.

¹²⁵
Pa B1 

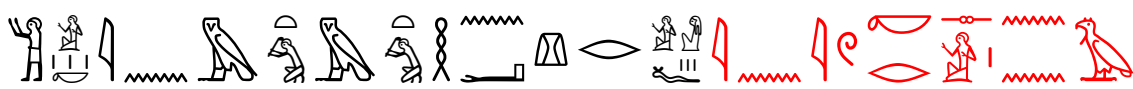
¹²⁵
Ne B1 | ḥnqt hnw ḥn^c t 3

¹²⁵
Ne B1 | Half a litre of beer and three loaves of bread,

¹²⁶
Pa B1 

¹²⁶
Ne B1 ptr pnqt=k m ssṯ twṯw=k

Ne B1 what is it you expend to satisfy your dependants?

Pa B1 


Ne B1 jn mwt mwt ḥn^c ḥrw=f jn-jw=k r s n nhḥ

Ne B1 A mortal man dies along with his underlings, or will you be a man of eternity?

¹²⁷
Pa B1 

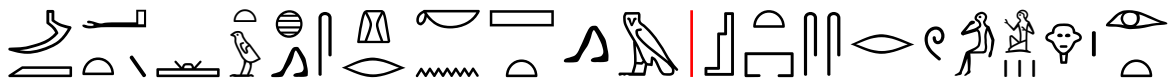
¹²⁷
Ne B1 n jw | js pw jws w gsṯw th nnm

Ne B1 Is it not wrong, a balance that is crooked, the pointer of a balance that errs,

¹²⁸
Pa B1 

¹²⁸
Ne B1 mtj | m^{3c} ḥpr m tnbḥ mk m^{3c}t wth=s ḥr=k

Ne B1 a truly correct man who strays? Look, justice is fleeing from you,

¹²⁹
Pa B1 

¹²⁹
Ne B1 nš.tj m | st=s srw ḥr jrt jyt

¹²⁹
Ne B1 expelled from | its place. Officials are doing evil,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 tp-ḥsb n mdt ḥr rdjt ḥr gs

Ne B1 the norm of speech is biased

130
Pa B1

Ne B1 | ¹³⁰sḍmyw Ɂr Ɂnp jtt=f

Ne B1 ¹³⁰ I and judges are carrying off what it seizes.

Pa B1

Ne B1 sjɔ̃tj pw n mdt m ʔqʷ=s

Ne B1 This means that he who twists speech from its correct sense

131

Pa B1



Ne B1 hr | jrt rf nwdw jm=s

Ne B1 is ¹³¹ acting corruptly thereby.

Pa B1

Ne B1 rdj tʷ hr ɡʷt hr tʰ

Ne B1 He who should give breath is suffocating on the ground,

Pa B1  132 

Ne B1 srfw ¹³² | hr rdjt nšp.tw psšw m ^cwnw

Ne B1 he who should rest | is making people pant, the arbitrator is a cheat,

Pa B1  133 

Ne B1 dr ¹³³sʔr|{r} m wd jrt=f dmj m wdnw=f

Ne B1 he who should relieve distress is ordering its creation, the harbour is flooded,

Pa B1 134

Ne B1 hsf jw hr 134 | jrt jyt

Ne B1 he who should punish injustice is
134 I doing evil.'

Pa B1 135

Pa B1

Pa B1

Pa B1

Pa B1 137

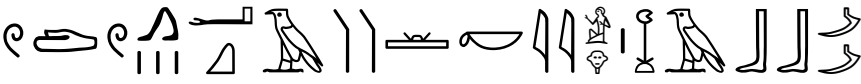
Pa B1 

29

Pa B1  138

Ne B1 dr | nw ḥr jrt nwdw 138

Ne B1 He who should dispel | weakness is acting corruptly; 138

Pa B1  139

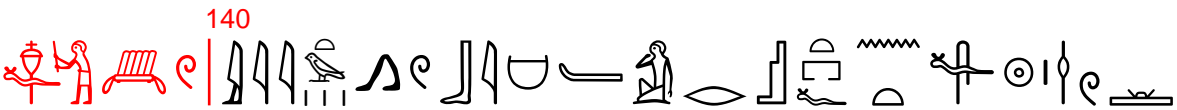
Ne B1 ḥq̃ ky ḥr ḥbb

Ne B1 he who should correct another is being crooked;

Pa B1  139

Ne B1 | wḥ ky jr jyt tr gm=k rk n=k 139

Ne B1 | he who should reproach another is an evildoer. Do you find anything for yourself? 139

Pa B1  140

Ne B1 ḥwḥ ḥsf ʔw | jyt jw bj r st=f nt sf 140

Ne B1 Redress is short but evil is long. A good deed returns to its place of yesterday.

Pa B1  141

Ne B1 wḏ rf pw jr n jrr | r rdjt jr=f 141

Ne B1 This is the precept: act for him who acts, | to make him act; 141

Pa B1  142

Ne B1 dw³-nṯr n=f pw ḥr jrṛt=f njt jḥt pw tp-ḥ | st 142

Ne B1 it is thanking him for what he does; it is parrying a thing before | shooting; 142

Pa B1  142

Ne B1 wḏ jḥt pw n nb ḥnt

Ne B1 it is commissioning something from a craftsman.

Pa B1  143

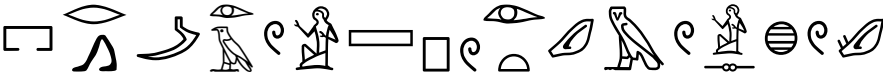
Ne B1 ḥꜣꜣꜣt sḥtm|=s pn^c m rwj=k

Ne B1 Would that a moment would destroy, havoc in your vineyard,

Pa B1  144

Ne B1 ḥꜣ m ꜣpdw=k ḥbꜣ | m qbḥw=k 144

Ne B1 decimation of your birds, destruction | among your water-fowl! 144

Pa B1  145

Ne B1 pr mꜣw šp jrwt sḏmw shw

Ne B1 He who should see has turned blind, one who should hear deaf,

Pa B1  145

Ne B1 | sšmw ḥpr(.w) m stnmw 145


Ne B1 | and one who should lead has gone astray. 145

Pa B1  146

Ne B1 | ḥnbrw jn tr snb.n=k 146

Ne B1 | Basket¹! Have you (not) gone too far? 146

¹ Uncertain, but not altogether implausible if meant figuratively as "someone accumulating wealth"; cf. B1 164.

Pa B1  147

Ne B1 jrr=k r=k jrf r-lm 147

Ne B1 Why do you act against yourself?

Pa B1  147

Ne B1 mk tw nḥt(.tj) wsr.tj ḥ=k pr(.w)

Ne B1 Look, you are strong and powerful, your arm is strenuous,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jw nsw m hntj jw hmw m ^c=k

Ne B1 While the king is in the stateroom and the helm is in your hand,

Pa B1 ¹⁵⁹ 

Ne B1 ¹⁵⁹ | rdj.tw jyt m h³w=k

Ne B1 ¹⁵⁹ | evil is placed near you.

Pa B1 

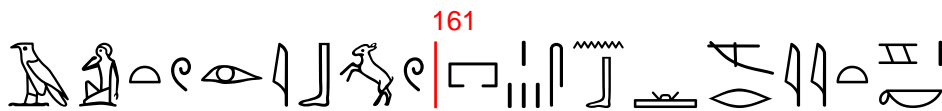
Ne B1 ¹⁶⁰ | ¹⁶⁰ 3w sprw=j wdn

Ne B1 My plea is long, and the division is difficult.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 jst pw ntj jm k³.tw

Ne B1 "What's with him there?" people say.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ¹⁶¹ jr jbw ¹⁶¹ | snb mryt=k

Ne B1 ¹⁶¹ Create shelter ¹⁶¹ | so that your shore will be safe,

Pa B1 

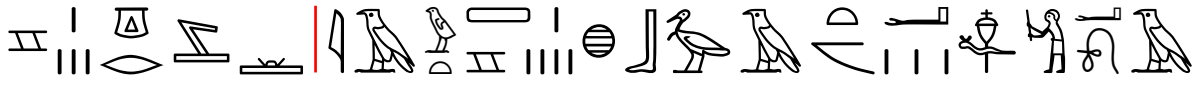
Ne B1 ¹⁶² mk dmj=k šn.w ¹⁶² | ^cq³ ns=k


Ne B1 ¹⁶² for look, your harbour is surrounded by crocodiles! ¹⁶² | May your tongue be truthful


Pa B1 


Ne B1 ¹⁶³ jm=k tnmw ¹⁶³ t³mw ¹⁶³ | pw n s ^ct jm=f


Ne B1 so that you won't go astray! That organ in a man is his canker-worm.


Pa B1  174
 Ne B1 grg | j3wt hb3wt hsf ʿw3
 Ne B1 and restores | mounds that have been ravaged. Punish theft

Pa B1  175
 Ne B1 | nd hr m3r m hpr m wldnw r sprw
 Ne B1 | and protect the poor! Don't become a flood against the suppliant!

Pa B1  177
 Ne B1 s3w tkn n nhh | mr w3h mj dd
 Ne B1 Beware of the approach of eternity. | Desire to last, as is said:

Pa B1  178
 Ne B1 3w pw n fnd jrt m3t
 Ne B1 "Doing justice is breath for the nose."

Pa B1  178
 Ne B1 | jr hsftr hsfw n=f
 Ne B1 | Inflict punishment on him who ought to be punished,


Pa B1  179
 Ne B1 nn sn.tw r tp-hsb=k jn-jw jwsn nnm=f
 Ne B1 and none will surpass | your rectitude. Does the 'hand'-balance¹ err?

¹ "Handwaage".

Pa B1 

Ne B1 r d|mj n ḥnm m wšb=s

Ne B1 to | reach the smeller with its retort.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ntf jyt | r rdjt rd ḥbsw

Ne B1 The one who waters mischief | to make deception¹ grow,
¹ Uncertain.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 spw 3 | pw r rdjt jr=f jr rk ḥmw r ndbyt

Ne B1 this is three times | to induce him to act!¹ Steer according to the sail.
¹ I.e. "this is already the third time that I induce him to act!"

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | šd wḏnw r jrt m³ct

Ne B1 | Withdraw the flood, so as to do justice.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 sṓw | ḥ³=k rk ḥr nfryt

Ne B1 Be careful that | you do not run aground, while at the tiller.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ^cqḳyt nt t³ | jrt m³ct {w}

Ne B1 To straighten out the land | is to do justice.

Pa B1

Ne B1 m dd grg jw=k wr.tj

Ne B1 Do not speak falsehood, for you are mighty.

Pa B1

Ne B1 m js | jw=k dns.tj

Ne B1 Do not be light-hearted, | for you are weighty.

Pa B1

Ne B1 m dd grg ntk jws

Ne B1 Do not speak falsehood, for you are the balance.

Pa B1

Ne B1 | m tnbhw ntk tp

Ne B1 | Do not be careless, for you are the key.

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw m tp w^c | hn^c jws

Ne B1 You are just | like the balance:

Pa B1

Ne B1 jr gs³=f hr=k | g{w}s³=k

Ne B1 if it is crooked, then you must | be crooked.

Pa B1


Ne B1 m sbn jr rk hm^w šd | hr nfryt

Ne B1 Do not deviate, but operate the rudder, pull | on the tiller rope.

Pa B1 

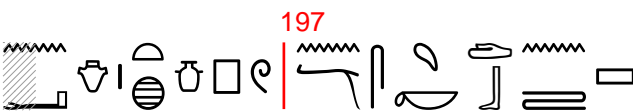
Ne B1 m jt jr rk r jtw

Ne B1 Do not rob, but act against the robber.

Pa B1 ¹⁹⁶ 

Ne B1 ¹⁹⁶ | n wr js pw wr jm ʿwn-jb

Ne B1 ¹⁹⁶ | A great one who is greedy is not (really) great.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ¹⁹⁷ th pw | ns=k

Ne B1 Your tongue is the pointer (of the balance),

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ¹⁹⁸ dbn pw jb=k rmnw=f pw sptj|k

Ne B1 your heart is the weight, and your lips are its arms.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ¹⁹⁹ jr ḥbs=k ḥr=k r nḥt-ḥr | nm jrf ḥsf=f bw-ḥwrrw

Ne B1 ¹⁹⁹ But if you shut your eyes to the impudent, | then who will repel evil?

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ²⁰⁰ mk tw m | ḥwrrw n rḥtj

Ne B1 ²⁰⁰ Look, you are | a dishonourable washerman

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ²⁰¹ ʿwn-jb ḥr ḥdt | ḥnms

Ne B1 ²⁰¹ who is keen on destroying | friendship,

Pa B1

Ne B1 bt³ n mhnk=f n

$$\text{tw}^3 \models f$$

Ne B1 one who wrongs his confidant for his client;

Pa B1

Ne B1 sn=f pw jy jn n=f

Ne B1 anyone who comes and supplies to him is his brother.

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw

m|hntj d³ nb hmt

Ne B1 Look, you are a ferryman | who ferries across anyone who has the fare,

Pa B1

Ne B1 cq^3y

| $c_q^3 = f \int f dq$.w

Ne B1 a righteous man

whose righteousness has crumbled.

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw m hrj šn^cw

Ne B1 Look, you are the chief of a workhouse

Pa B1

Ne B1 | n rdj.n=f sw3 šw hr-c

Ne B1 | who won't let an unemployed person through at once.

Pa B1

Ne B1 mk tw

| tnh̃r n rhyt

Ne B1 Look, you are ¹⁰⁰ a hawk to the people,

Ne B1 and the crocodile retreats. But what is ²¹³ the gain thereof to you?

Ne B1 The secret of the truth will be found, and falsehood will be cast on the ground.

Ne B1 Do not make provision for the following day before it has come,

Ne B1 since one cannot know what is going to happen in it.'


Ne B1 When this peasant had said these words, the high steward Rensi, son of Meru,

Ne B1 went to the entrance of the portal,

²¹⁷
 Pa B1 

²¹⁷
 Ne B1 | ḥ^c.n rdj.n=f ḥ^c jmj-s³ 2 r=f hr smjw

²¹⁷
 Ne B1 | and made two guards turn against him with whips,

²¹⁸
 Pa B1 

²¹⁸
 Ne B1 ḥ^c.n ḡ=sn ḥ^c=f nbt jm ḏd.jn šhtj pn

Ne B1 and they thrashed all his limbs therewith. Then this peasant said:

²¹⁹
 Pa B1 

²¹⁹
 Ne B1 s³ Mrw | tnm.hr=f

²¹⁹
 Ne B1 'So the son of Meru | must go astray,

²¹⁹
 Pa B1 


Ne B1 hr=f šp(.w) r m³t=f sh(.w) r sdmt=f

Ne B1 since his face is blind to what he sees and deaf to what he hears,

²²⁰
 Pa B1 

²²⁰
 Ne B1 | th(.w) jb hr sh³yt n=f

²²⁰
 Ne B1 | and is straying from what it is reminded of.

²²¹
 Pa B1 

²²¹
 Ne B1 mk ṭw m njwt | nn ḥq³-ḥwt=s mj ht nn wr=s

²²¹
 Ne B1 Look, you are a town | without a mayor, like a meeting without a chairman,

Pa B1 222

Ne B1 mj dpt | nn shry jm=s

Ne B1 like a ship ²²² without a captain,

Pa B1 223

Ne B1 smýt nn sšmw|=s

Ne B1 like a gang without a leader.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 mk tw m šnt jḅ hq³-hwt šspw

Ne B1 Look, you are a policeman who steals, a major who accepts (bribes),

224

Pa B1



Ne B1 | ²²⁴jmj-r³ w hsf h^cd³

Ne B1 224 | a district overseer who should restrain robbery

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ḥpr m jmj-ḥt n jrr

Ne B1 but who has become a pattern for the criminal.'

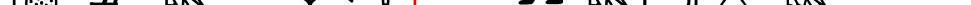

225

Pa B1




Ne B1 | jw.jn rf shtj pn r spr n=f 4nw sp ²²⁵

225
Ne B1 | And this peasant came to plead with him for a fourth time,

Pa B1  226 


Ne B1 gm.n sw ḥr | prt m sb³ n hwt-ntr nt Ḥrj-š=f ²²⁶

Ne B1 and found him 226 | emerging from the gate of the temple of Arsaphes.

Pa B1 


Ne B1 | dd=f ḥsw

Ne B1 | He said: 'Praised one,

Pa B1 


Ne B1 ḥs tw Ḥrj-š=f jj.n=k | m pr=f

Ne B1 may Arsaphes, from whose temple you have come, praise you!

Pa B1 


Ne B1 ḥd bw-nfr nn j^cbt=f

Ne B1 Goodness has been harmed; there is no accumulation of it,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 pth s³ n | grg r t³ jn-jw t³ mḥnt s^cq.tj

Ne B1 nor is there casting of | falsehood on the ground. Has the ferry sunk?

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | sld³.tw jrf m

Ne B1 Who can be ferried across

Pa B1 

Ne B1 shpr sp m msdd

Ne B1 when the one who should bring about the deed is unwilling?

Pa B1 

Ne B1 d³t | jtrw m s³ tbtj d³t nfr nn

Ne B1 Crossing | the river on foot: a good crossing, or not?

232

Pa B1



Ne B1 | nm tr sdr r sšp ²³²

Ne B1 | ²³² Now, who can sleep till dawn?

[illegible]

Ne B1 | 233 grh sbj m hrw

Ne B1 For obstructed are going by ²³³ | night, travelling by day,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 rdjt ^hc s r ²³⁴ | sp=f nfr n wn m³ct

Ne B1 and letting a man attend ²³⁴
I his truly good cause.

[illegible]

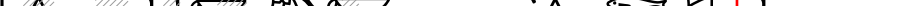
Ne B1 mk nn km n dd 235
| n=k st

Ne B1 Look, it is no use to tell you this,

Pa B1

Ne B1 sf sw3(.w) hr=k nh.wj m3r 236
| sky=k

Ne B1 for mercy has left you. How lamentable is the poor man
I you ruin!

Pa B1  237

Ne B1 mk tw mhw | j^c jb=f ²³⁷

Ne B1 Look, you are a hunter 237
| who slakes his desire,

Pa B1  238

Ne B1 wdd r jrt mrt=f h³c dbw | st sm³w 238

Ne B1 bent on doing what he wants, who harpoons hippopotami, | shoots wild bulls, 238

Pa B1  239

Ne B1 ph rmw sht | 3pdw 239

Ne B1 catches fish and snares | birds. 239

Pa B1  240

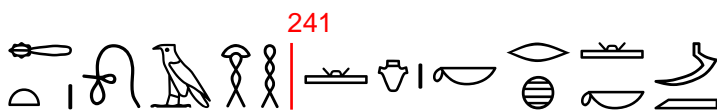
Ne B1 nn h³h r³ šw m w^crw

Ne B1 Yet there is none hasty of speech who is free of spluttering,

Pa B1  240

Ne B1 | nn js-jb dns shr ht 240

Ne B1 | and none light of heart who is weighty of thought. 240

Pa B1  241

Ne B1 w³h | jb=k rh=k m³t 241

Ne B1 Be tender-hearted, so that you will learn justice!

Pa B1  242

Ne B1 d³r stpt=k r | nfr bss grw 242

Ne B1 Suppress your choice for | the good of him who enters 242

Pa B1  243

Ne B1 nn shmw | mdd bw-jqr 243

Ne B1 humbly. For there is no brute | who attains excellence, 243

Pa B1  244

Ne B1 nn wn h3h jb | jn.tw 244

Ne B1 and there is no impatient man | whom one turns to. 244

Pa B1  245


Ne B1 sgmh jrtj swd3.tw jb

Ne B1 Let the eyes see so that the heart be informed.

Pa B1  245


Ne B1 m k3h|sw hft wsr=k tm spr bw-dw r=k

Ne B1 Don't be haughty in proportion to your might, so that evil doesn't reach you.

Pa B1  246

Ne B1 | sw3 hr sp jw=f r snw 246

Ne B1 | Tolerate one misdeed, and it will become two. 246

Pa B1  247


Ne B1 jn wnm dp | jw w3dw w3b=f 247

Ne B1 It is the eater who tastes, | so one who is questioned replies; 247

Pa B1  248

Ne B1 jn sdrw m33 | rswt 248

Ne B1 it is the sleeper who dreams.


Pa B1  249

Ne B1 jr wd^c-rwt m

249
| ḥsfw n=f

Ne B1 As for a judge

249
| who ought to be punished,

Pa B1  250

Ne B1 jw=f m jmj-ḥt n jrr wh³

250
| mk tw ph.tj

Ne B1 he is a pattern for the criminal. Fool,

250
| look, you are found out!


Pa B1  251

Ne B1 ḥm-jht mk tw

251
| wšd.tj

Ne B1 Ignoramus, look, you

251
| are questioned!

Pa B1  252

Ne B1 pnqy mw mk tw ^cq.tj

Ne B1 Bailer of water¹, look, you are noticed!

¹ Meant figuratively: "someone urinating".

Pa B1  252

Ne B1 | ḥmy m sbn dpwt=k

Ne B1 | Helmsman, don't let your ship go off course!

Pa B1  253

Ne B1 s^cnhw

253
| m rdj mwt.tw

Ne B1 Giver of life,

253
| don't let people die!

Pa B1  254


Ne B1 šhtmw m rdj | htm.tw 254

Ne B1 Destroyer, don't let | people perish! 254

Pa B1 

Ne B1 šwyt m jr m šw

Ne B1 Shade, don't be as the blazing sun!

Pa B1  255


Ne B1 jbw | m rdj jt msh 255

Ne B1 Shelter, | don't let the crocodile snatch! 255

Pa B1  256

Ne B1 4nw sp 3 m spr n=k | jn rf wrš=j r=f 256

Ne B1 The fourth time already of pleading with you; | shall I spend all day at it?' 256

Pa B1  257

Ne B1 jw.jn rf šhtj pn r | spr n=f 5nw sp 257

Ne B1 And this peasant came to | plead with him for a fifth time. 257

Pa B1  258

Ne B1 dd=f jmj-r3 pr wr nb=j | jw | hwdw hr [...] [mhyt¹] 258

Ne B1 He said: 'High steward, my lord, the netter is [...] [fish],

¹ Following the suggestion by Parkinson (1991).

Pa B1

Ne B1

n|yw¹ ħr sm³ jy

Ne B1

the nyw-fisherman² is killing jy-fish,

¹ Uncertain.

2 Uncertain.

Pa B1

Ne B1 st

rm|w h_r h₃h₄ c_wbbw

Ne B1 the fish-spearer is harpooning ^cwbbw-fish,

Pa B1

Ne B1 $d^3b\dot{h}w$

Ne B1 the d³b^hw-fisherman

261

261

261

| is after p³qr-fish.

Pa B1

Ne B1 jw w \dot{h}^c $\underline{h}b^3=f$

Ne B1 The fisherman ravages the river.

jtr|w mk tw m mnt-jrj

Look, you are the same.

Pa B1

Ne B1 m ^cwn hwrw

Ne B1 Do not defraud a poor man

263

263

| $\text{hr } \text{jht} = f$

263

l of his property,

Pa B1

Ne B1 fn rh.n=k sw




| bw | pw | n |
|--------|--------|-----|
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| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 2 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 3 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 4 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 5 |
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| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 46 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 47 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 48 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 49 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 50 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 51 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 52 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 53 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 54 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 55 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 56 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 57 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 58 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 59 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 60 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 61 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 62 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 63 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 64 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 65 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 66 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 67 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 68 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 69 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 70 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 71 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 72 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 73 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 74 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 75 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 76 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 77 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 78 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 79 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 80 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 81 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 82 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 83 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 84 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 85 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 86 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 87 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 88 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 89 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 90 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 91 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 92 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 93 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 94 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 95 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 96 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 97 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 98 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 99 |
| 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 100 |

Ne B1 a slight man whom you know. The belongings of a pauper are his breath,

264

264


| m³r jht=f

Pa B1  ||  266 

Pa B1  267

Pa B1 268

[illegible]


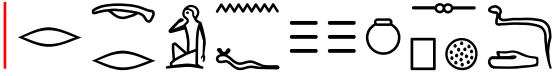
Pa B1 

54

Pa B1  

Ne B1 mk tw | m š=f sṭw

Ne B1 But look, you | are the lake that pulls him under.'

Pa B1  

Ne B1 jw.jn rf sḥtj pn | r spr n=f 6nw sp

Ne B1 And this peasant came | to plead with him for a sixth time,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 dd=f jmj-r³ pr wr nb=j | nb sjsf grg

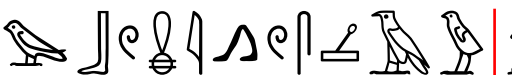

Ne B1 and he said: 'High steward, my lord, | lord who eradicates falsehood,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 shpr m³t shpr | bw nb nfr sḥtm bw¹

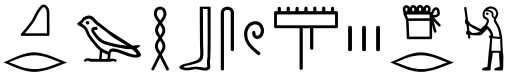

Ne B1 who creates truth and creates | all goodness, who destroys [evil],

¹ Perhaps meant was bw-ḏw.

Pa B1  

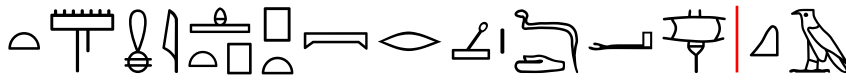
Ne B1 mj jw s³w | ḏr=f ḥqr

Ne B1 like when satiety comes | and ends hunger,

Pa B1  

Ne B1 ḥbsw ḏr=f | ḥ³wt

Ne B1 and clothes end nakedness,

Pa B1  276

Ne B1 mj ḥtp pt r-s³ dꜥ

Ne B1 like when the sky becomes calm after a heavy storm

Pa B1  277

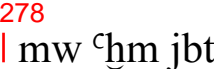
Ne B1 sšmm=s ḥsw nb

Ne B1 and warms all who are chilled,


277
| mj ḥt pst w³dwt

277
| like fire that cooks what is raw,

Pa B1  278  279

Ne B1 mj  278 mw ḥm jbt m³³ m

279
| ḥr=k

Ne B1 like  278 | water that quenches thirst! See with

279
| your own eyes:

Pa B1  280

Ne B1 psšw m ḥwnw

280
| shrr m jr ³hw

Ne B1 the arbitrator is a cheat,

280
| the appeaser is causing misery,

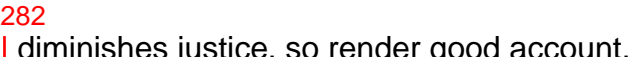
Pa B1  281

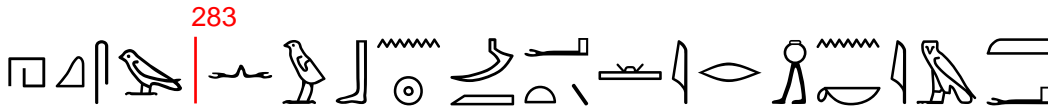
Ne B1 stwlt m jr mnt

Ne B1 and he who should mitigate is causing suffering.

Pa B1  282

Ne B1 jw sjt  282 | sšrr=f m³ḥt mḥ nfr

Ne B1 Cheating  282 | diminishes justice, so render good account,

Pa B1  283

Ne B1 n hqs | n wbn m³t

Ne B1 and justice will be neither insufficient nor excessive.

Ne B2 jr twt

Ne B2 So act accordingly!


Pa B1  284

Ne B1 jr jn=k jm n snnw=k | wgyt šw.tj m ³q³

Ne B1 If you acquire, then give to your fellow man, | for chewing is without merit.

Ne B2 jw gs n | ¹³tpw=k r šdt=k

Ne B2 and your share of the cargo will be what you seize,

Pa B1  285 286

Ne B1 | jw 3hw=j sšm=f r jw|dt

Ne B1 | My anguish leads to separation

Pa B1  287

Ne B1 jw srhy=j jn.n=f rww|t

Ne B1 and my accusation brought departure;

Pa B1 

Ne B1 n rh.n.tw wnnt m jb

Ne B1 one cannot know what is in the heart.

Pa B1  288

Ne B1 | m wsf jr rk r smjt fdq=k nm ts=f

Ne B1 | Don't be negligent, act at the accusation! If you sever, who will join?

Pa B1

Ne B1

Ne B1

Pa B1

Ne B1

Ne B1

Pa B1

Ne B1

Ne B1

Pa B1

Ne B1

Ne B1

Ne B2

Ne B2

Pa B1

Ne B1

Ne B1

Pa B1

Ne B1

Ne B1

293

Pa B1 

293

Ne B1 | jw h3w=k m nwdw 3q3

293

Ne B1 | and your environment is corrupt.

17

Ne B2 jw h3w=k m nwdw | 3q3 n bw-nb

Ne B2 and every man in your environment is corrupt.

294

Pa B1 

294

Ne B1 j3|tj n t3 r-dr=f

Ne B1 Molester of the entire land!

295

Pa B1 

295

Ne B1 k3ny n bw-hwrrw hr

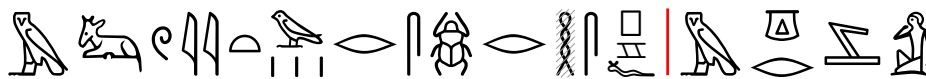
| ntf h3p=f m jwyt

Ne B1 The cultivator of wickedness is

295

| watering his garden with

296

Pa B1 

296

Ne B1 r shpr h3p=f

| m grg

Ne B1 evil, to make his garden grow

296

| with falsehood

Pa B1 

Ne B1 r ntf jyt n dt

Ne B1 and to water everlasting doom.'

297

Pa B1 

297

Ne B1 | jw.jn rf sh3tj pn r spr n=f 7nw sp


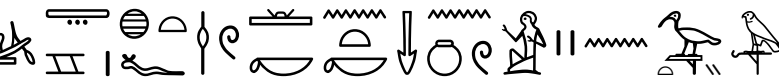
297

Ne B1 | And this peasant came to plead with him for a seventh time,

298
Pa B1  

298
Ne B1 dd=f | jmj-r³ pr wr nb=j ntk ḥmw n t³ r-dr=f

298
Ne B1 and he said: | 'High steward, my lord, you are the helm of the entire land,

299
Pa B1  

299
Ne B1 sqdd | t³ ḥft wḏ=k ntk snnw n Dḥwtj

Ne B1 the land sails in accordance with your command. You are the equal of Thoth,

300
Pa B1  

300
Ne B1 | wḏ^c nn rdjt ḥr gs

300
Ne B1 | who judges without being partial.

301
Pa B1  

301
Ne B1 nb=j w³ḥ=k njs t³w s | r sp=f n wn-m^{3c}

301
Ne B1 My lord, may you condone that a man calls upon you | concerning his just cause.

Pa B1  

Ne B1 m šnt jb=k n n=k st

Ne B1 Don't be outrageous, it is not for you!

302
Pa B1  

302
Ne B1 | ḥpr 3w ḥr m ḥw jb m w³ n ntt n jjt

302
Ne B1 | One who was happy becomes anxious. Do not scheme for what has not yet come,

303

Pa B1 

303

Ne B1 | m ḥ^cw n ntt n ḥprt jw whd s³w=f m ḥnms

303

Ne B1 | do not rejoice in what has not yet happened! Considerateness extends friendship

304

Pa B1 

304

Ne B1 | sḥtm sp ḥpr

304

Ne B1 | and dismisses an offence that happens;

305

Pa B1  

305

Ne B1 n rh.n.tw wnnt m jb | ḥb³ ḥp ḥd tp-ḥsb

305

Ne B1 one cannot know what is in the heart. | Subverter of the law, destroyer of rectitude!

306


Pa B1  

306

Ne B1 nn m³r | ^cnh

306

Ne B1 There will be no poor man | alive

Pa B1 

Ne B1 ḥ^cd³w=f n wšd sw m³t

Ne B1 if justice does not attend to him when he is robbed.

307

Pa B1  

307

Ne B1 jw grt | ḥt=j mḥ.tj jb=j ṯp(.w)

307


Ne B1 Now, | my body is full (of misery) and my heart is laden (with grief).

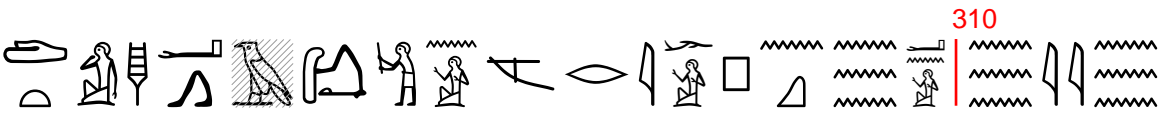



Pa B1 \


Ne B1 pr js m ḥt=j n ^cjrj


Ne B1 It comes from my body because of the condition thereof:

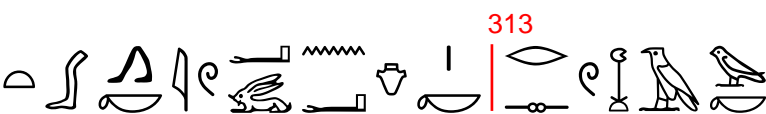
Pa B1  308
 Ne B1 | ngt pw m dnjt mw=s 3s(.w) wn 309 | r3=j r mdt
 Ne B1 | it is the breach of a dike, its waters pouring through, as my mouth opens to speak.


Pa B1  310
 Ne B1 | h3 3 h3.n=j mrj=j pnq.n=j 310 | mwj=j
 Ne B1 So, I have now plied my sounding rod, bailed 310 | my water,

Pa B1  311
 Ne B1 snf.n=j ntt m ht=j j3.n=j š3mw=j
 Ne B1 given vent to what was on my mind and washed my dirty linen.

Pa B1  312
 Ne B1 | hn=j hpr(.w) m3r=j dr(.w) hft-hr=k
 Ne B1 | My speech is done and my misery has ended up before you,

Pa B1  313
 Ne B1 ptr | d3rw=k jw wsf=k r tht=k
 Ne B1 what (more) | do you need? Your neglect will lead you astray,

Pa B1  314
 Ne B1 jw 3wn-jb=k | r sw3=k
 Ne B1 your avarice | will befool you

Pa B1  315
 Ne B1 jw snm=k r shpr hrwyw=k
 Ne B1 and your greed will make you acquire enemies.

314

Pa B1

314

Ne B1 | jn-jw=k swt r gmt ky shtj mjt看=j

314

Ne B1 | Will you even find another peasant like me?

315

Pa B1

315

Ne B1 | jn-jw wsfw spry r ʕḥ r r3 n pr=f

315

Ne B1 | Or will the lazy petitioner be waiting at the door of his house?

316

Pa B1

316

Ne B1 | nn gr rdj.n=k mdw=f nn sdr rdj.n=k rs=f

316

Ne B1 | There is none silent whom you let speak, none sleeping whom you roused,

Ne B2 nn sdr srs.n=k

Ne B2 none sleeping whom you roused,

317

Pa B1

317

Ne B1 | nn ḥb3 ḥr sspd.n=k

317

Ne B1 | none downcast whom you enlivened,

318

Pa B1

318

Ne B1 nn tm r3 | wn.n=k

Ne B1 none speechless whose mouth you opened,

Pa B1

Ne B1 nn ḥm rdj.n=k rh=f nn wh3 sb3.n=k

Ne B1 none ignorant whom you let know, none foolish whom you educated.

48

Ne B2 | ḥm sb3.n=k

48

Ne B2 | uneducated whom you instructed.

319

Pa B1 

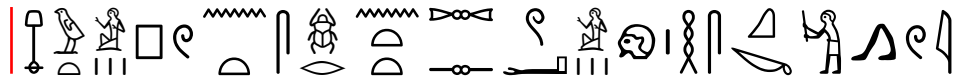
319

Ne B1 | ḥsrw ḏwt pw srw nbw bw-nfr pw

319

Ne B1 | Yet officials should be people who dispel injustice, lords of goodness,

320

Pa B1 

320

Ne B1 | ḥmwt pw nt šḥpr ntt ṯsw tp ḥsq

320

Ne B1 | craftsmen in creating what is, people who mend a severed head.'

321

Pa B1 

321

Ne B1 | jw.jn rf | šḥtj pn r spr n=f 8nw sp

Ne B1 And this peasant came to plead with him for an eighth time,

322

Pa B1 

322

Ne B1 | dd=f jmj-r' pr wr nb=j jw | ḥr.tw n ḥnt w3

Ne B1 and said: 'High steward, my lord, one sinks low through greed.

Pa B1 

Ne B1 | jw cwn-jb šw=f m sp

Ne B1 A greedy man is without achievement,

323

Pa B1 

323

Ne B1 | jw wn sp=f n wht jw cwn jb=k nn n=k st

323

Ne B1 | he achieves only failure. You are greedy but it does nothing for you,

324

Pa B1 

324

Ne B1 | jw cw3=k nn 3h n=k

324

Ne B1 you steal | but it's of no benefit to you.

| | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| Pa B1 | ³³⁶ | ³³⁷ |
| Ne B1 | ³³⁶ ꜣ šfdw gstj Dḥwtj | ³³⁷ ḥr.tj r jrt jy t |
| Ne B1 | ³³⁶ Pen, papyrus, palette of Thoth, | ³³⁷ beware of doing evil! |

Pa B1

Ne B1 nfr nfrt nfr r=f

Ne B1 The goodness of a good man is good to him,

Ne B2 nfr nfrt nfr rf nfrt



Ne B2 When goodness is good, goodness is good indeed,

338

338 | jw swt m³ct r nhh



338 | but justice is for eternity.

| | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------------|---|
| Pa B1 | | 339 | |
| Ne B1 | h ³³ =s | 339 | m- ^c jrr sj r hrt-nṯr |
| Ne B1 | It goes down | 339 | with him who does it to the necropolis. |

Pa B1 
340 

Ne B1 jw qrs.tw|=f smʿ tʿ jm=f

Ne B1 When he is buried, and earth envelops him,

Pa B1  341 

Ne B1 n sjn.tw 341

Ne B1 his name is not effaced on earth | rn=f tp tʿ

Pa B1

Ne B1 {jw=f} jw sh³.tw=f hr bw-|nfr

Ne B1 and he is remembered on account of the goodness.

Pa B1  343

Ne B1 tp-ḥsb pw n mdw-ntr jn jwsu 343
| pw

Ne B1 This is the norm of the divine word. If it is a 'hand'-balance,

Ne B2 tp-ḥsb n mdw-ntr

Ne B2 The norm of the divine word:

Pa B1  344

Ne B1 n g{r}s3.n=f jn mh3t 344
| pw

Ne B1 then it is not crooked. If it is a 'stand'-balance,

Pa B1  345

Ne B1 n rdj.n=s ḥr gs mk wj 345
| r jwt mk ky r jwt

Ne B1 then it is not biased. Look, I 345
| will come, and another will come,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 wšd=k

Ne B1 so you should inquire!

Pa B1  346 347

Ne B1 | m wšbw m wšd 346 347
gr/w

Ne B1 | But do not respond as one who questions a humble man. 346

Pa B1  348

Ne B1 m ph ntj n ph.n=f n sf.n=k n mn.n=k 348

Ne B1 Do not attack one who cannot attack. You show no mercy, you are not troubled,

Pa B1

Ne B1

$$n \quad \text{sksk}|.n=k$$

Ne B1

you do not destroy,

Ne B2 n bh³.n=k

Ne B2 you do not flee,

Pa B1

Ne B1 n rdj.n=k n=j db3w n mdt

Ne B1 nor do you give me a reward for this good speech

Pa B1

Ne B1 prrt m r3 n R^c ds=f

Ne B1 that comes forth from the mouth of Re himself!

Pa B1

Ne B1 | dd m³ct jr m³ct

dr-ntt wr sj

Ne B1

351
| Speak justice and do justice!

For it is mighty,

Ne B2

85
| jr rk n=j m³ct

Ne B2

85
I Do justice to me!

Pa B1

Ne B1 | 3 sj w3h sj

gmw.tw kft=s

Ne B1

352
I it is great, it is enduring, one will find its trustworthiness,


353
Pa B1  354


353
Ne B1 | sbw=s r jm³h jn gs³ 354
| jwsu

353
Ne B1 | it will lead to blessedness. Can a balance be crooked

Ne B2 n gs³ jwsu

Ne B2 A balance cannot be crooked

355
Pa B1 

355
Ne B1 hnkww=f pw f³yw j³wt

Ne B1 when it is its pans that weigh things?

356
Pa B1 

356
Ne B1 n hpr.n pr³w n tp-hsb

Ne B1 There can be no excess of rectitude.

357
Pa B1 

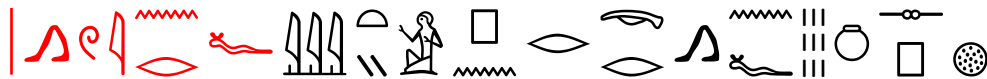
357
Ne B1 n spr.n sp h³s r {r} dmj

357
Ne B1 An evil deed cannot reach | harbour,

Pa B1 

Ne B1 hrj-s³ r s³h t³


Ne B1 but the hindermost will reach land.'


91
Pa B2 

91
Ne B2 | jw.jn rf sh³tj pn r spr n=f 9nw sp


91
Ne B2 | And this peasant came to plead with him for a ninth time,


Pa B2 | 92
Ne B2 | dd=f jmj-r³ pr wr nb=j mh^t pw nt 93
Ne B2 | and said: 'High steward, my lord, the tongue of people is their 'stand'-balance,


Pa B2  94
Ne B2 jn jwsu d^cr | d³t 94
Ne B2 and it is the 'hand'-balance that detects | deficiency 94

Pa B2 
Ne B2 jrr ḥsft r ḥsfw n=f
Ne B2 and inflicts punishment on him who ought to be punished.

Pa B2 95
 Ne B2 sn.tw tp-ḥsb r=k 95
 Ne B2 One sets the standard after you. | Falsehood [...] when its need arises, 95

Pa B2 |  **Ne B2** | ḥnn sj m³ṯ r ḥq³=f jḥt pw nt **Ne B2** | but the truth returns to correct it. Truth is an aspect of falsehood,

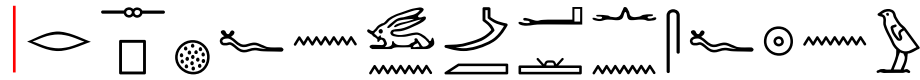
Pa B2 
Ne B2 sw³d=f pw n nw.tw=f
Ne B2 which means it is made to thrive but it is not gathered in.

98
Pa B2 | 

98
Ne B2 | jr šm grg jw=f tnm=f

98
Ne B2 | When falsehood sets out, it goes astray.

109



109

Ne B2 njs s

| r sp=f n wn-m^{3c}

nn sf n wsfw

109

Ne B2 Summon a man | concerning his just cause! There is no yesterday for the negligent,

110



110

Ne B2

nn hnms n sh m³ct

110

Ne B2

I no friend for him who is deaf to truth

111



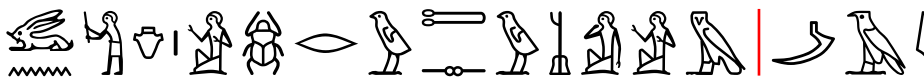
111

Ne B2 nn hrw

| nfr n ^cwn-jb

Ne B2 and no holiday for the greedy.

112



112

Ne B2 hpr wtsw m

| m³ry

112

Ne B2 The accuser becomes

I wretched,

Pa B2



Ne B2 wretched to be a suppliant,

113



113

Ne B2 | hpr hft m smʷ

113

Ne B2 | and the opponent becomes a murderer.

Pa B2  114

Ne B2 mk wj hr spr | n=k n sdm.n=k st 114

Ne B2 Look, I am pleading with | you but you do not hear it. 114

Pa B2  115

Ne B2 jw=j r šmt spr=j | hr=k n Jnpw 115

Ne B2 I will go and plead | concerning you with Anubis.' 115

Pa B2  116

Ne B2 rdj.jn jmj-r3 pr wr | Mrw s3 Rnsj šm jmj-s3 2 r c'n n=f 116

Ne B2 Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent two guards to bring him back.

Pa B2  117

Ne B2 | wn.jn shtj pn snd(.w) 117

Ne B2 | And this peasant was afraid, 117

Pa B2  118


Ne B2 jb=f jrr.tw | r hsf n=f 118


Ne B2 thinking it was done | to punish him 118


Pa B2  119


Ne B2 hr mdt tn ddt.n=f dd.jn shtj pn

Ne B2 on account of these words that he had said. And this peasant said:

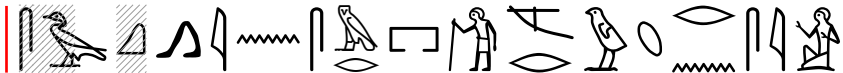
Pa B2  126
 Ne B2 wnm=j 3 m t=k swr=j 3 | [ḥnqt]=k r nḥḥ
 Ne B2 'So I will eat your bread and drink | your [beer] forever!'


Pa B2  127
 Ne B2 dd.n jmj-r3 pr wr | Mrw s3 Rnsj s3 grt 3
 Ne B2 The high steward Rensi, son of Meru, said: 'Now wait here'

Pa B2  128
 Ne B2 | sdm=k n3y=k n sprwt
 Ne B2 | and hear your petitions!'

Pa B2  129
 Ne B2 rdj.jn=f šd.tw | ḥr 3rt m3t sprt nbt
 Ne B2 And from a new papyrus roll he had every petition read out

Pa B2  130
 Ne B2 r ḥrt[=s]
 Ne B2 according to [its] content.

Pa B2  131
 Ne B2 | s3q.jn sj jmj-r3 pr wr Mrw s3 Rnsj
 Ne B2 | Then the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, delivered them

Pa B2  131
 Ne B2 | n ḥm n nsw-bjtj Nb-k3w-R3 m33-ḥrw
 Ne B2 | to the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Nebkaure, justified,

Pa B2

132

Ne B2 wn.jn nfr st ḥr jb=f

132 | r jht nbt ntt m t³ pn r-dr=f

Ne B2 and they pleased his heart | more than anything in this entire land.

132

Pa B2

Ne B2 dd.jn hm=f

133 | wd^c tw ds=k s³ Mrw

Ne B2 Then His Majesty said:

133
I 'Pass judgement yourself, son of Meru!

Pa B2

134

A long sequence of 24 pictographs. The first 12 are on a hatched background, and the last 12 are on a white background. The symbols include various geometric shapes, human figures, and abstract forms.

Ne B2 rdj.jn jmj-r³ pr wr | Mrw s³ Rnsj šm jmj-s³ 2 r [jnt Nmtj-nht]

134

Ne B2 And the high steward Rensi, son of Meru, sent two guards to [fetch Nemtinakht].

Pa B2

135

Ne B2

135 | ^{ch}c.n=fjn(.w) jr wpwt m [...]

Ne B2

135
I Then he was brought and an inventory was made of [...]

Pa B2

136



Ne B2 | $\text{ch}^c.n \text{ gm}.n=f \text{ tpw } 6$

136

Ne B2 | He found six persons

136

Pa B2

137

Ne B2 hrw-r [...]

137
| r šm^c=f r btj=f r Ćw=f

Ne B2 as well as [...]

137
| his barley, his emmer, his donkeys,

